

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A CATV conditional access system comprising:

a plurality of analog head ends for distributing picture signals of analog programs and picture signals of transmitted digital programs to terminals provided in ~~a plurality of~~ respective areas; and

a digital head end for transmitting the picture signals of the digital programs to the plurality of analog head ends,

wherein said digital head end transmits to the terminals within the areas, data containing both an area code used to recognize the area to which each terminal belongs, and a channel contrastive table for comparing a management number that is uniquely allocated to each analog program and is commonly used in all the areas and a channel display number used in each area ~~for selecting an analog program that is commonly used in the area to which each terminal belongs~~, and

each of said terminals stores thereinto the area code and the channel contrastive table, and retrieves the corresponding management numbers from the channel contrastive table by comparing the channel display numbers ~~for selecting~~ the analog programs set for each area and

the area code, and then displays the channel display number ~~off~~for selecting the analog program of the retrieved management number.

2. (previously presented): The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 1, wherein both the data indicative of the area code and the data indicative of the channel contrastive table are transmitted from said digital head end to the terminals of the respective areas respectively via a channel used to transmit the picture signal.

3. (currently amended): The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said digital head end transmits data about an analog channel transmission frequency contrastive table to the terminals within the plurality of areas, said analog channel transmission frequency contrastive table comparing the management number with a transmission frequency of an analog program within each of the areas, and

each of the terminals stores thereinto the analog channel transmission frequency contrastive table, such that when a channel display number ~~off~~for selecting an analog program is designated, said each terminal retrieves a management number corresponding to the designated channel display number from the channel contrastive table based upon the area code, and said each terminal retrieves a transmission frequency of an analog program corresponding to the retrieved management number from the analog channel transmission frequency contrastive table so as to be tuned to the retrieved transmission frequency.

4. (previously presented): The CATV conditional access system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the data indicative of the analog channel transmission frequency contrastive table are transmitted from said digital head end to the terminals of the respective areas respectively via a channel used to transmit the picture signal.

5. (currently amended): A CATV conditional access method comprising the steps of:
providing a plurality of analog head ends for distributing picture signals of analog programs and picture signals of transmitted digital programs to terminals provided in ~~a plurality of~~ respective areas;

providing a digital head end for transmitting the picture signals of digital programs to the plurality of analog head ends;

transmitting to the terminals within the areas, data containing both an area code used to recognize the area to which the area belongs, and a channel contrastive table for comparing a management number that is uniquely allocated to each analog program and is commonly used in all the areas and a channel display number used in each area ~~offor selecting~~ an analog program ~~that is commonly used in the area~~;

storing in each of said terminals the area code and the channel contrastive table;

retrieving the corresponding management numbers from the channel contrastive table by comparing the channel display numbers ~~off~~for selecting the analog programs set for each area and the area code; and

displaying the channel display number ~~off~~for selecting the analog program of the retrieved management number.

6. (currently amended): A CATV conditional access system according to claim 1, wherein both the data indicative of the area code and the data indicative of the channel contrastive table are transmitted from said digital head end to the terminals of the respective areas respectively via a data transmission channel which is separately provided with ~~the~~a channel for transmitting the picture signal.

7. (currently amended): A CATV conditional access system according to claim 4, wherein the data indicative of the analog channel transmission frequency contrast table are transmitted from said digital head end to the terminals of the respective areas respectively in a data transmission channel which is separately provided with ~~the~~a channel for transmitting the picture signal.